



# NEW ON NAXOS

The World's Leading Classical Music Label

SEPTEMBER 2014



NAXOS

## ITALIAN SOPRANO ARIAS

*Il tramonto • Un bel dì vedremo • O mio babbino caro*

**Maria Luigia Borsi**

**London Symphony Orchestra • Yves Abel**



### This Month's Other Highlights

NAXOS

**BARTÓK**

**Kossuth**

Two Portraits  
Suite No. 1

Buffalo Philharmonic  
Orchestra  
JoAnn Falletta



NAXOS

**MILHAUD**

**L'Orestie d'Eschyle**  
(The Oresteia of Aeschylus)

Soloists • University of Michigan Symphony Orchestra  
Percussion Ensemble • University Choirs • UMS Choral Union  
Kenneth Kiesler



3 CDs







8.573412



Playing Time: 58:40

## Italian Soprano Arias

Maria Luigia Borsi, Soprano  
London Symphony Orchestra • Yves Abel

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Ottorino RESPIGHI</b> | <b>Il tramonto</b>  |
| <b>Alfredo CATALANI</b>  | <b>La Wally: Ebben? Ne andrò lontana (Act 1)</b>            |
| <b>Giuseppe VERDI</b>    | <b>Otello: Era più calmo?...</b>                            |
|                          | <b>Mia madre aveva una povera ancella</b>                   |
|                          | <b>(Canzone del salice/Willow Song) – Ave Maria (Act 4)</b> |
| <b>Giacomo PUCCINI</b>   | <b>Madama Butterfly: Un bel dì vedremo (Act 2)</b>          |
|                          | <b>Turandot: Signore, ascolta (Act 1)</b>                   |
|                          | <b>La bohème: Donde lieta uscì (Act 3)</b>                  |
|                          | <b>Suor Angelica: Senza mamma</b>                           |
|                          | <b>La rondine: Chi il bel sogno di Doretta (Act 1)</b>      |
|                          | <b>Gianni Schicchi: O mio babbino caro</b>                  |

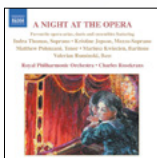
Appearing here in her début solo album, Italian lyric soprano Maria Luigia Borsi has been acclaimed for her 'grace, beauty, animation and variety' (*The Sunday Times*). Her *Willow Song* from Verdi's *Otello* has been described as 'gorgeously sung' (*Opera News*) and her role in Puccini's *Turandot* as demonstrating 'extraordinary communicative skills' (*Opera Magazine*). This programme includes some of the most moving and dramatic arias from Italian opera, including the tragic heartbreak of *Madama Butterfly* and the shimmering beauty of Catalani's *Ebben? Ne andrò lontana* from *La Wally*.

Hailed by critics worldwide for her vocal dynamism and interpretive prowess, **Maria Luigia Borsi** has forged a career that has taken her throughout Europe, Asia, and the United States. Ms Borsi began her career as Liù in Puccini's *Turandot* at the Teatro alla Scala. She made her Venetian début for the historic reopening of the Gran Teatro La Fenice singing the role of Violetta in Verdi's *La traviata*, conducted by Lorin Maazel. She has performed with the **London Symphony Orchestra**, London Philharmonic, Vienna Philharmonic, Israel Philharmonic, Rotterdam Philharmonic, Tokyo Philharmonic, Münchner Philharmoniker, Seoul Philharmonic and Scottish Chamber Orchestra.

### Companion Titles



8.578237



8.557309



8.555796



8.572438



Maria Luigia Borsi

© Richard Crean

Watch the trailer, which contains, amongst others, a personal greeting from **Andrea Bocelli**



London Symphony Orchestra

© Igor Emmerich



JoAnn Falletta



8.573307



Playing Time: 69:42



Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra

**Béla BARTÓK (1881-1945)****Kossuth****Two Portraits • Suite No. 1***Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra • JoAnn Falletta*

All three of the works in this programme reveal a young composer on the threshold of greatness, serving as his passport to the vast new world of orchestral music prevailing at the beginning of the 20th century. Inspired by the tone poems of Richard Strauss, Bartók's *Kossuth* dramatically commemorates the struggle for Hungarian independence in 1848 with an alluring and provocative orchestration. The *Two Portraits* set moods of love and painful heartbreak into stark contrast, while the *First Suite* is a showcase of symphonic effects which caused a sensation in Vienna at its première in 1905.

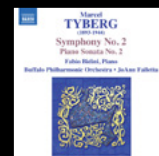
**JoAnn Falletta**, acclaimed by *The New York Times* as "one of the finest conductors of her generation", serves as the Music Director of the **Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra** and Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Principal Conductor of the Ulster Orchestra in Belfast, Northern Ireland, and Principal Guest Conductor of the Brevard Music Center. She has guest-conducted more than a hundred orchestras in North America and many of the most prominent orchestras in Europe, Asia, South America, and Africa. Ms Falletta is an ardent champion of music of our time, introducing over 500 works by American composers, including more than 110 world premières. Her extensive Naxos discography includes a double GRAMMY® Award-winning volume of works by John Corigliano and GRAMMY®-nominated discs by Fuchs, Gershwin, Holst, Respighi, Schubert and (which) Strauss.

**Companion Titles**

NBD0041



8.573161



8.572822




8.559753



Kenneth Kiesler

**MILHAUD**  
**L'Orestie d'Eschyle**  
 (The Oresteia of Aeschylus)

Soloists • University of Michigan Symphony Orchestra  
 Percussion Ensemble • University Choirs • UMS Choral Union  
**Kenneth Kiesler**


8.660349-51  
3 CDsPlaying Time:  
2:21:24**Darius MILHAUD (1892-1974)****L'Orestie d'Eschyle**

(Oresteia of Aeschylus)

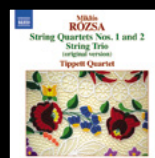
**Libretto by Paul Claudel**Soloists • University of Michigan Symphony Orchestra  
Percussion Ensemble • University Choirs • UMS Choral Union  
Kenneth Kiesler

Part of the great French musical tradition and a member of Les Six, Darius Milhaud was an important avant-garde figure in early 20th century Paris. The *Oresteia of Aeschylus* trilogy arose from his lifelong interest in Greek mythology and drama, inspired by the expressive, syncopated rhythms of Paul Claudel's poetic texts. In addition to innovative rhythmic elements, the trilogy exhibits complex harmonic techniques, particularly polytonality, which Milhaud believed gave him more varied ways of expressing sweetness in addition to violence.

**Kenneth Kiesler**, one of the most prominent conductors of his generation and one of the world's sought-after mentors of conductors, has conducted the National Symphony, Chicago Symphony, and Chamber Orchestra of Paris. He has led dozens of premières and recordings, including Bright Sheng's *The Silver River* in Singapore, and *Peter Grimes* and *Il Turco in Italia* at Opera Theatre of St. Louis. Kiesler received the 2011 American Prize in Conducting, the silver medal at the 1986 Stokowski Competition, and the American Symphony Orchestra League's 1988 Thompson award for outstanding American music director under the age of 35.

**Companion Titles**

8.572474



8.572903



8.570496



8.570497



Thierry LANCINO

**LANCINO**  
**Violin Concerto**  
**Prelude and Death of Virgil**

Isabelle Faust, Violin • Matteo de Monti, Baritone  
 Orchestra Philharmonique du Luxembourg • Arturo Tamayo  
 Orchestre National de France • Gerard Schwarz

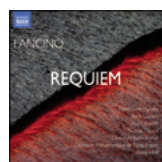


8.573204

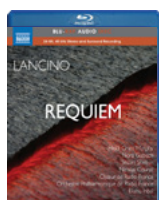


Playing Time: 60:29

## Companion Titles



8.572771



NBD0020

**Thierry LANCINO (b. 1954)**  
**Violin Concerto\***  
**Prelude and Death of Virgil\*\***

Isabelle Faust, Violin\*\* • Matteo de Monti, Baritone\*  
 Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg\*\* • Arturo Tamayo\*\*  
 Orchestre National de France\* • Gerard Schwarz\*

Thierry LANCINO's background includes extensive periods of research at IRCAM and elsewhere, but his recent work concentrates on a lyrical and bold freedom of style embracing ideas of both seduction and spirituality. Inspired by a scene of historical impact, his *Prelude and Death of Virgil* dramatizes the demise of a daunting genius. LANCINO writes of his *Violin Concerto* that his imagination was fired by 'the thought of a little piece of wood (in reality a 1704 Stradivarius), played by Isabelle Faust, confronting a gigantic machine (the full orchestra)'. Thierry LANCINO's *Requiem* (Naxos 8.572771) was described as 'exhilarating' by *BBC Music Magazine*.

Composer **Thierry LANCINO** studied at the University of Poitiers and Conservatoire de Paris where he received the Prix de composition and electroacoustics (1972–1977). At Stanford University he pursued his musical research and became a specialist in computer sound synthesis. In 2007, he was awarded the prestigious Koussevitzky Music Foundations Commission. If LANCINO's creative life was first dedicated to experimenting with sound phenomena—artistically and scientifically—he has been focusing more lately on lyrical, colourful and bold writing, with a freedom of style that embraces both seduction and spirituality. His recordings are available on Wergo, K617, Ades-MFA and Naxos.





8.558081-84  
4 CDs



Playing Time:  
4:57:50

# A-Z of STRING PLAYERS

by David Milsom

The *A-Z of String Players* surveys the lives, careers and recordings of over 300 string players from the past and present. Many great string players who have made recordings are included, from Accardo to Zukerman. The text covers artists from the earliest recording processes to contemporary, cutting-edge technology. In this clear and straight-forward publication, the artists are listed alphabetically, with a summary of their career, notable recordings, biography and critical appraisal of their recorded legacy. In addition, four compact discs present a selection of recordings from 69 artists. This package will appeal to enthusiast and scholar alike as a readable, informed and fascinating work of reference.

#### Key Features:

- 4 CDs: Almost 5 hours of music
- Over 300 biographies and selected recordings
- Booklet of over 660 pages, with photographs
- Bonus Area: Complete recordings by artists from Ayo to Zimmermann [NB Username & Password required]

ISBN: 978-1-84379-810-1

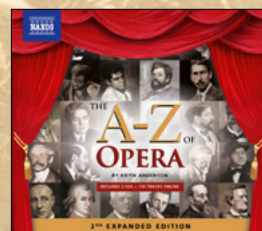
#### Companion Titles



8.558107-10\*



8.558087-90\*

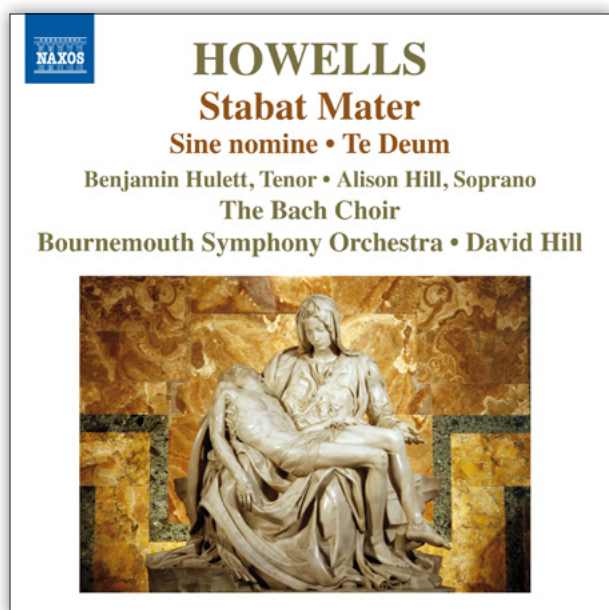


8.558216-17



8.558212-13

\*Not available in the United States due to possible copyright restrictions.



8.573176


Playing Time:  
70:24

## Herbert HOWELLS (1892-1983)

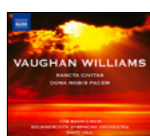
### Stabat Mater\*

### Te Deum\* • Sine nomine†

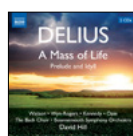
Benjamin Hulett, Tenor • Alison Hill, Soprano† • The Bach Choir  
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra • David Hill

The three works on this recording mark staging posts in Herbert Howells's compositional life. *Sine nomine* was commissioned at Elgar's instigation when Howells was 30 and is predominantly orchestral, with wordless parts for the two vocal soloists. This arch-like 'spiritual meditation' was his first extended work for larger forces. Like the *Hymnus paradisi* (Naxos 8.570352), the *Stabat Mater* is a direct musical response to the death of the composer's nine year-old son, and further reveals his mastery of choral and orchestral polyphony. The *Te Deum* signalled a fresh and new approach to settings of Anglican canticles.

#### Companion Titles



8.572424



8.572861-62



8.557863



8.572317



NBD0041


Playing Time:  
71:37

## Reinhold Moritsevich GLIÈRE (1875-1956)

### Symphony No. 3, 'Il'ya Muromets'

Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra • JoAnn Falletta

"The Glière *Symphony No. 3* has always been a piece that shimmered on my horizon – a cult piece, in a way, renowned as the composer's towering masterpiece but rarely played in concert. As long as a Mahler symphony and enormous in its instrumental requirements, it was a work that people spoke about reverently but almost never heard live. The recording was an adventure that changed our orchestra, strengthened us, and became an artistic benchmark for our musicians. We revelled in the gorgeous landscape of the *Symphony* – from mysterious bass murmurings to crushing walls of brass *fortissimo* to breathtaking impressionistic renderings of forests and birds. We performed and recorded this massive work uncut to preserve Glière's extraordinary architecture. This work is a cathedral in sound that unfolds in breathtaking swashes of colour, poetry and monumental climaxes." – JoAnn Falletta

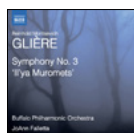


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**Audio Format** • Blu-ray Audio  
**Sound** • 24-bit, 96 kHz PCM

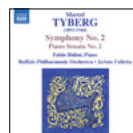
#### Companion Titles



8.573161



8.573307



8.572822

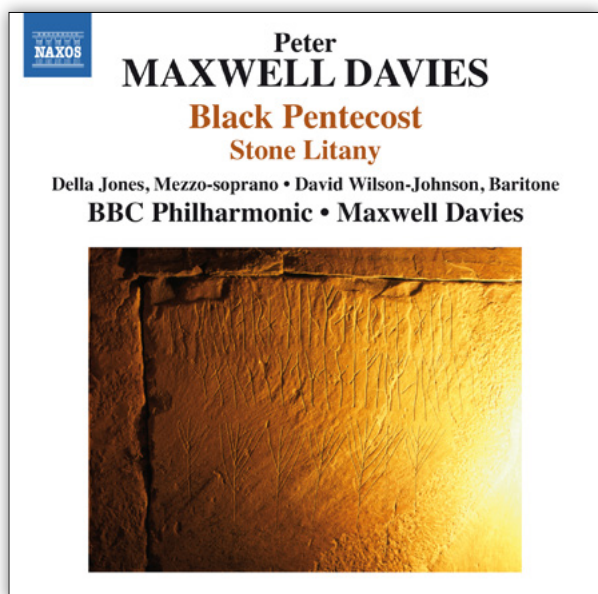


8.559753

"This is an important recording for several reasons. First, it contains the finest version yet recorded of Glière's epic Third Symphony, 'Il'ya Muromets'." Second, it defines once and for all how the piece is supposed to go." – *ClassicToday.com*







8.572359


Playing Time:  
76:44

## Sir Peter MAXWELL DAVIES (b. 1934)

### Black Pentecost\*

### Stone Litany – 'Runes from a House of the Dead'

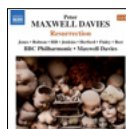
Della Jones, Mezzo-soprano\* • David Wilson-Johnson, Baritone\*  
BBC Philharmonic • Sir Peter Maxwell Davies



Sir Peter  
Maxwell Davies

Both *Black Pentecost* and *Stone Litany* share a symphonic scale and an Orkney setting. Premiered by Simon Rattle in 1982, *Black Pentecost* is an impassioned plea against environmental destruction, taking its words from Orcadian author George Mackay Brown's novel *Greenvoe*, and cast in the form of a vocal symphony. Chamber-like restraint is matched by tense, dark writing that embraces threnody and cataclysm. Beautifully orchestrated and featuring elaborate melismas from the vocal soloist, *Stone Litany*, subtitled 'Runes from a House of the Dead', evokes the haunted landscape of a Neolithic burial mound plundered by Vikings.

#### Companion Titles



8.660359-60



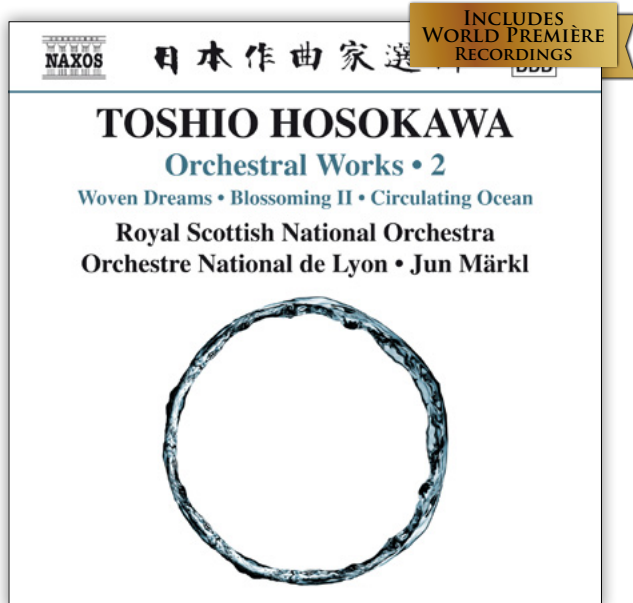
8.660354



8.572408



8.572356



8.573276


Playing Time:  
51:12

## Toshio HOSOKAWA (b. 1955)

### Orchestral Works, Vol. 2

### Woven Dreams<sup>1†</sup> • Blossoming II<sup>2</sup>

### Circulating Ocean<sup>3†</sup>

Royal Scottish National Orchestra<sup>1,2</sup> • Orchestre National de Lyon<sup>3</sup>  
Jun Märkl



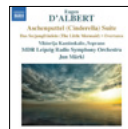
Jun Märkl

Toshio Hosokawa is one of Japan's most eminent living composers. The first volume in this series devoted to his orchestral works [8.573239] explores the idea of the blossoming lotus – "music as plant-like development and growth" – and continues here with *Blossoming II* for chamber orchestra. *Woven Dreams* traces the journey from womb to birth by employing techniques drawn from *Gagaku*, the ancient Japanese court music. Of *Circulating Ocean* the composer writes: "I am attempting to express in sound the flow and change of water... The ocean is for me the birthplace of life, a being possessed of infinite depth and expanse."

#### Companion Titles



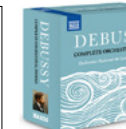
8.573239



8.573110



8.572805



8.509002



**Joseph Martin KRAUS**

**Arias and Overtures**

**Proserpin • Äfventyraren • Geburtstags-Kantate**  
**Parvum quando cerno Deum • Sentimi, non partir!**

**Monica Groop, Mezzo-soprano**  
**Helsinki Baroque Orchestra • Aapo Häkkinen**

INCLUDES  
 WORLD PREMIÈRE  
 RECORDINGS



8.572865


Playing Time:  
62:47

## Joseph Martin KRAUS (1756-1792)

### Arias and Overtures

**Proserpin • Äfventyraren • Geburtstags-Kantate**  
**Parvum quando cerno Deum • Sentimi, non partir!**

*Monica Groop, Mezzo-soprano*

*Helsinki Baroque Orchestra • Aapo Häkkinen*



Joseph Martin Kraus was one of the most talented and progressive composers of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and regarded by Haydn as one of the only two geniuses he knew, alongside Mozart. Following the successful audition of his opera *Proserpin*, Kraus became closely associated with the court of Gustav III in Stockholm. The highly dramatic *Begravnings-kantat* overture was the composer's emotional response to the assassination of his sovereign. The vocal pieces include works performed for the first time in over two centuries, ranging from Italian concert arias to rare survivals from the Royal Dramatic Theatre.

### Companion Titles



8.555305



8.557498



8.570334



8.570585

**Johann Strauss II**

**AT THE OPERA**

**Dances by Strauss based on melodies from the operas of**  
**BALFE • FLOTOW • VERDI**  
**MEYERBEER • OFFENBACH**  
**AUBER • DONIZETTI • GOUNOD**



8.578287


Playing Time:  
77:02

## Johann STRAUSS II (1825-1899)

### Johann Strauss II at the Opera

**Dances by Strauss based on melodies from the operas of**  
**BALFE • FLOTOW • VERDI • MEYERBEER**  
**OFFENBACH • AUBER • DONIZETTI • GOUNOD**

*Various Artists*

Johann Strauss II the 'Waltz King' was the most famous and enduringly successful of 19<sup>th</sup>-century light music composers, captivating not only Vienna but the whole of Europe and America with his tuneful dances and marches. Of these dances none was more of a 'snapshot' of contemporary musical life than the quadrille. Its six distinct sections invited the use of musical highlights from the latest theatre hits, and Strauss the Younger was at the forefront of those writing quadrilles using the themes of others, from Balfe's *The Bohemian Girl* to Offenbach's *Orpheus*, and his own operetta masterpiece *Die Fledermaus*.

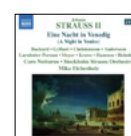
### Companion Titles



8.505226



8.660227-28



8.660268-69





8.573207


Playing Time:  
66:47

## Boris TCHAIKOVSKY (1925-1996) Piano Quintet<sup>1</sup> • The War Suite<sup>2†</sup>

Olga Solovieva, Piano<sup>1</sup> • Maxim Anisimov, Clarinet<sup>2</sup>  
The Vanbrugh Quartet

<sup>†</sup>WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING



Vanbrugh Quartet

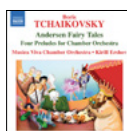
Boris Tchaikovsky is revered in Russian musical circles as one of the most original and innovative composers of the post-Shostakovich generation. A work of great depth and beauty, the *Piano Quintet* is considered his finest chamber work and a stylistic milestone which would influence aspects of the later *Piano Concerto* (8.557727). Based on a

the score for the 1964 film *While the Front is in Defence*, *The War Suite* is an evocative portrayal of the horrors of battle, but also of heroism, friendship and lost love, at the Volkhov Front, south east of Leningrad, during the winter of 1942.

### Companion Titles



8.557727



8.572400



8.570195



8.573108


Playing Time:  
66:29

## String Quartets

Enso Quartet

Richard STRAUSS (1864-1949)

Giacomo PUCCINI (1858-1924)

Giuseppe VERDI (1813-1901)

String Quartet in A major, Op. 2, TrV95

Crisantemi

Three Minuets in A major

String Quartet in E minor



Enso String Quartet

Three of the greatest opera composers from the 19th and early 20th centuries are heard on this recording in their only works for string quartet. Richard Strauss's *String Quartet in A major* is a youthful work which shows the classical influence of Haydn, while Puccini's *Crisantemi* is a brief elegy charged with great emotional intensity.

Verdi's *String Quartet in E minor* is his

only significant chamber work, written at the age of sixty when he was at the height of his fame. The Enso Quartet's GRAMMY®-nominated recording of Ginastera's complete quartets (8.570780) was acclaimed by *MusicWeb International* for "string quartet playing of jawdropping prowess".

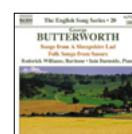
### Companion Titles



8.572733



8.572600

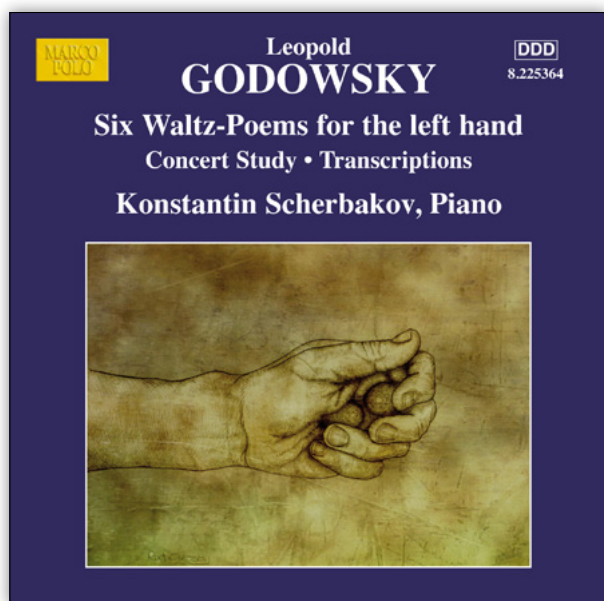


8.572426



8.572514





8.225364


Playing Time:  
69:50

## Leopold GODOWSKY (1870-1938)

### Piano Music, Vol. 12

#### Six Waltz-Poems for the left hand

#### Concert Study • Transcriptions

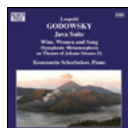
Konstantin Scherbakov, Piano



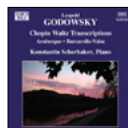
Leopold Godowsky's stature as one of the world's great piano virtuosi was maintained until a stroke ended his performing life in 1930. But, allied to his prodigious gifts as a performer, he also published a series of original compositions and transcriptions for the piano. In this twelfth volume of Konstantin Scherbakov's critically acclaimed series, the focus falls on the delectable *Six Waltz-Poems for the left hand* and on an ingeniously crafted series of song transcriptions of well-known music by Schumann, Brahms, Schubert and also Carl Bohm.

Godowsky additionally pays homage to Kreisler with his delicious transcription of the *Rondino on a theme of Beethoven*.

#### Companion Titles



8.225274



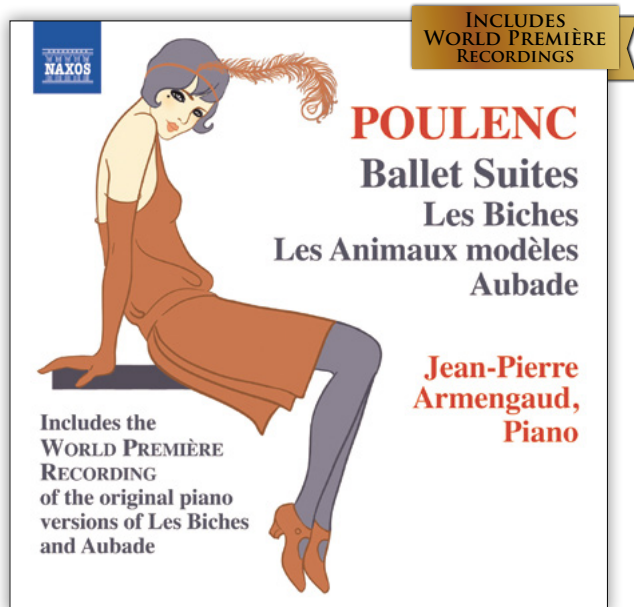
8.225226



8.225276



8.225350



8.573170


Playing Time:  
77:14

## Francis POULENC (1899-1963)

### Ballet Suites

#### Les Biches<sup>+</sup>

#### Les Animaux modèles<sup>+</sup>

#### Aubade<sup>+</sup>

Jean-Pierre Armengaud, Piano

<sup>+</sup>WORLD PREMIÈRE RECORDING OF PIANO VERSIONS

<sup>+</sup>FIRST DIGITAL RECORDING


This programme brings together première recordings of Francis Poulenc's own piano versions of his 'ballet of atmosphere' *Les Biches* and 'choreographic concerto' *Aubade*, as well as the first digital recording of the suite from *Les Animaux modèles*, inspired by the fables of La Fontaine and compiled by Grant Johannesen with the composer's agreement. 'Piano scores' are an essential part of rehearsing and choreographing any ballet, but the piano was also indispensable to Poulenc's compositional process. He owed his love of classical dance to years of working closely with Diaghilev, and his music brims with subtlety, humour, genuine emotion, piquant harmonies and rhythmic lightness.

#### Companion Titles



8.553613



8.553931



8.572979



8.573093





8.572909


Playing Time:  
75:30

## Max Reger (1873-1916)

### Organ Works, Vol. 16

Three Organ Pieces, Op. 7 • Method of Trio Playing  
Three Chorale Preludes, Op. 67, Nos. 36-38

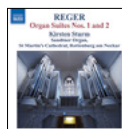
Christian Barthen, Organ



Christian Barthen

Reger's status as the supreme German organ composer since J. S. Bach has never been seriously challenged, and this disc explores some of the inspiration that Reger found in his great model. Some of the earliest music here, such as the *Three Organ Pieces, Op. 7*, is thoroughly imbued with the spirit of Bach – though as yet it lacks the chromaticism that was to be a feature of Reger's later writing. Together with his good friend and fellow organist Karl Straube, Reger wrote a sequence of inventions, based on Bach's 1723 *Two-Part Inventions* that ingeniously cultivate complete independence between the three parts, to which they gave the title *Method of Trio Playing*. This is the final volume in the critically acclaimed 16 CD series of Max Reger's complete organ works.

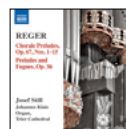
#### Companion Titles



8.572821



8.572906



8.572907



8.572908



8.573308


Playing Time:  
65:11

## Reminiscences of Russia

Irina Kulikova, Guitar

Konstantin VASSILIEV (b. 1970)

Sergey RUDNEV (b. 1955)

Viktor KOZLOV (b. 1958)

Three Forest Paintings:

The Old Oak  
Snowdrops  
Dance of the Forest Ghosts

Swan Princess†

Three Lyric Pieces:

Elegie in memoriam Sergey Rachmaninov  
Reminiscence in memoriam Agustín Barrios  
Mogiana in memoriam Heitor Villa-Lobos†

The Old Lime Tree

Between Steep Banks - Improvisation†

Dedication to the Russian Land

Flying Dutchman

Ballade for Beautiful Elena

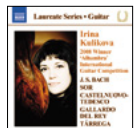
#### †WORLD PREMIÈRE RECORDINGS



Irina Kulikova

Multiple award-winning guitarist Irina Kulikova celebrates her 25th anniversary as a performer with this recording of works by contemporary Russian composer-guitarists. Winner of the Michele Pittaluga, Guitarra Alhambra, Iserlohn and Forum Gitarre Wien competitions, she has selected a programme that reflects the abiding strength of the folkloric vein in Russian musical life. Rich and expressive poetry is the hallmark of the music of Konstantin Vassiliev, not least in his homages to other composers in *Three Lyric Pieces*, while Sergey Rudnev and Viktor Kozlov explore vibrant dance patterns and moments of tranquillity in their own equally colour-conscious compositions.

#### Companion Titles



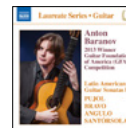
8.572717



8.572390



8.573362



8.573306





9.70216



## Nils VIGELAND (b. 1950)

Jenny Q. Chai, Piano

### Piano Works

**Life Sketches • L'empire des lumières (Hommage à René Magritte)**  
**Five Pieces • All in Due Time**

**\*Physical CDs for this release are available by request on a one-off basis.**

American composer Nils Vigeland made his professional début as a pianist, later studying composition with Lukas Foss and Morton Feldman and becoming a central figure in the New York contemporary music scene. Spanning four decades and consisting of around half of Vigeland's solo piano music, many of these works contain character pieces ranging from an evocation of a 13th-century saint, *Santa Fina*, to that of painter René Magritte's surrealist street scene *L'empire des lumières*. The individual movements are compact in duration and often share a use of the piano's middle *sostenuto* pedal, which creates a distant haze of sustained tones. *Five Pieces* was written specially for pianist Jenny Q Chai, who has a close affiliation with Nils Vigeland.



9.70217



## Franz Liszt, Peter Ritzen & Werner Pelinka

Peter Ritzen • Werner Pelinka

**Franz LISZT (1811-1886)**

**Piano Concerto No. 1, S. 124**  
**(original version for 2 pianos)**  
**Piano Concerto No. 2, S. 125**  
**(original version for 2 pianos)**

**Peter RITZEN (b. 1956)**

**Improvisation über**  
**"Et incarnates est" for piano solo**

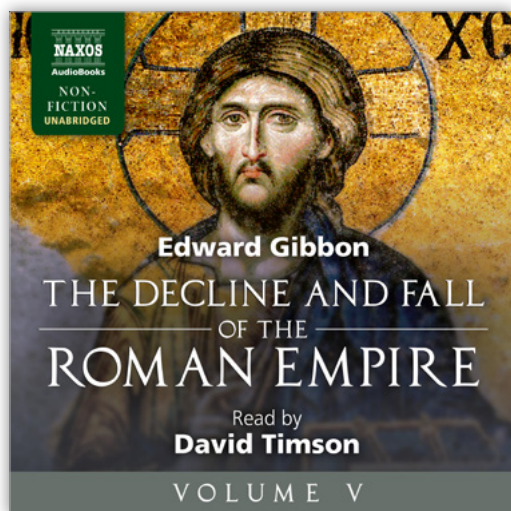
**Werner PELINKA (b. 1952)**

**"Mysterium fidei" Op. 48 for piano solo**

Franz Liszt's two surviving piano concertos are unusual in form, the first being described by Bartók as "the first perfect realisation of cyclic sonata form", and the second unfolding in a single continuous movement. Both concertos were originally scored for two pianos and this is their première recording in this instrumentation. Werner Pelinka's *Mysterium Fidei* expresses the Passion and resurrection of Christ, from dark meditation to triumphant apotheosis. Pianist, composer and Liszt expert Peter Ritzen possesses an unparalleled gift for improvisation, drawing on the great traditions of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. An unedited performance, 'et incarnates est' takes its thematic starting point from Gregorian chant. His album *The Art of Improvisation* can be found on Naxos 9.70187.



## New from Naxos Audiobooks



NA0129  
21 CD set

26 hours

### The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, Volume V

By Edward Gibbon  
Unabridged  
Read by David Timson

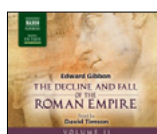


*The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* has always maintained its initial appeal to both the general public and scholars alike. Its sheer scale is daunting, encompassing over a millennium of history, covering not merely the Western Empire from the days of the early emperors to its extinction in AD 476, but also the Eastern Empire, which lasted for another thousand years until the Turks vanquished it in 1453. But Gibbon's style, part historical fact and part literature, is enticing, and the sheer honesty of the man, who endeavours to be scrupulously impartial in his presentation, endears him to the reader. In this recording, David Timson incorporates the most salient of Gibbon's footnotes.

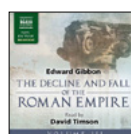
#### Companion Titles:



NA0125



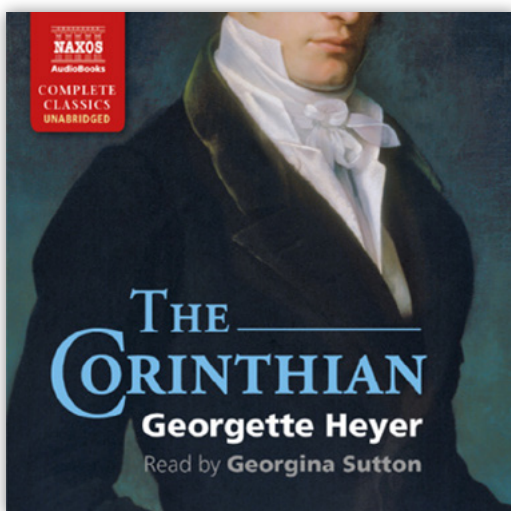
NA0126



NA0127



NA0128



NA0181  
7 CD set

9 hours

### The Corinthian

By Georgette Heyer  
Unabridged  
Read by Georgina Sutton



The accomplished Corinthian Sir Richard Wyndham is wealthy, sophisticated, handsome and supremely bored. Tired of his aristocratic family constantly pressuring him to get married, he determines to run away after meeting the delightful, unconventional heroine Penelope Creed. Penelope – literally – falls into his life late one night as she hangs from the window of her aunt's house – she too attempting to escape the pressures of forced marriage. The two allies become embroiled in a series of hilarious madcap adventures as they cross-dress, run into escaped criminals, have a case of mistaken identity and save people from their own dramatics. Little do they predict their feelings for one another blossoming into romance.

#### Companion Titles:



NA0184



NA0179



NA0142



NA0183



NA0187  
9 CD set

11 hours

### The Secret Agent

By Joseph Conrad  
Unabridged  
Read by David Horovitch



Joseph Conrad's *The Secret Agent* is a tale of anarchism, espionage and terrorism. Our agent, a man named Mr Verloc, minds his own business while he keeps his shop in London's Soho, alongside his wife, who attends to her aged mother and disabled brother. Their lives are turned upside down when Verloc is reluctantly employed to plant a bomb and destroy an observatory in London. What was once the perfect bomb plot inevitably turns awry and Verloc, his family and his associates are forced to face the consequences. Conrad's later political novel bears all the hallmarks of his captivating style: *The Secret Agent* brims with melodious and poetic language, alongside crystal-clear psychological insights that could only be the work of a uniquely gifted storyteller.

#### Companion Titles:



NA418412



NAX89012